



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

We have, in this work, carefully-drawn descriptions of the most celebrated natural scenes in Europe. Works of art are treated with taste and feeling, and national manners are indicated with due discrimination. The author appears to have made himself familiar with the various objects, most deserving a stranger's attention, in the great capitals of Europe, and entered heartily into the enjoyment of whatever was beautiful and excellent in taste, or illustrious in historical fame. The city of Paris, in particular, is the subject of ample and minute detail.

The book is written, as we have said, with considerable attention to the style ; but it has faults, in that respect, which ought to be pointed out. The language is too stilted and monotonous, running into long and cumbrous sentences, and thereby bearing at times an inadequate expression of the author's ideas. It is overloaded with epithets, which weaken instead of strengthening it. It is deficient in terseness, and would be greatly improved by a pretty thorough thinning out of superfluous words, those weeds of language. Take, for instance, a sentence selected almost at random, "Gilded as were now its rippling eddies, by the rays of a setting sun, that bathed no fairer landscape in the warm flood of its descending splendor, it formed a scene, such as the glad eye could not weary in gazing upon." But the book is, notwithstanding, very readable and agreeable.

15. — *Treatise on the Contract of Sale.* Translated from the French of R. J. POTHIER, by L. S. CUSHING. Boston : Charles C. Little & James Brown. 1839. 8vo. pp. 400.

THE accurate translation of this standard work by so good a writer as Mr. Cushing, is a valuable service, alike to the professional and general reader. A contract the most frequent and important is here satisfactorily discussed, upon the broad authority of good conscience and equity, as well as upon the more limited principles of municipal law. The train of reasoning is such as naturally passes through intelligent and thinking minds ; and, void of artificial elements, it leads to principles which not only do justice, but secure therefor the approbation of common sense. Thus the treatise on Contracts, like that of the same author on Obligations, is not only a good book of law, but an excellent book of morals. That distinguished writer and advocate, Mr. Alison, has justly remarked, that "Pothier, by an astonishing effort of mental vigor,

has extracted from the heterogeneous mass of the old laws and customs of France, the element of general jurisprudence, and followed out the ingrained principles of the Roman Law, with a power of generalization, and clearness of expression, to which there is nothing comparable in the whole annals of legal achievements." The treatise on Contracts is an important portion of those works, which elicited such a warm and merited eulogium from the English lawyer.

Though this treatise can possess, in America, none of the authority and weight of statute laws, and their judicial expositions, it richly furnishes those scientific and equitable considerations, which lawyers and judges, however able in native resources of intellect, or however much relieved from responsibility by inflexible precedents, wish ultimately to repose upon in forming conclusions, which, from their practical effect upon the interests and happiness of their fellow-men, must needs be justified as well at the bar of conscience as of public opinion. Besides, it is clothed with the authority of common law for those portions of America which were formerly under the jurisdiction of France, as Louisiana and Lower Canada.

This, in common with all translations, is marred by some inherent defects, impossible to be removed, because founded in the very elements of thought. The frequent occurrence of Latin words and phrases, concentrating in their signification whole laws and principles, more or less unknown to the foreign reader, abates much of the point and force of the general reasoning. It must be owned, too, that some doctrines are laboriously discussed, which have become, by a change of circumstances, and the diffusion of knowledge, scarcely worthy of even a formal statement.

16. — *Poems*. By GEORGE LUNT. New York: Gould & Newman. 1839. 12mo. pp. 160.

THE largest poem in this volume is of the didactic or philosophic kind, written in the good old couplet of Pope. It is called "Life," and is an attempt to unfold and illustrate the truth, that Christianity is necessary to the full development of the nature of man. We are inclined to the opinion, that didactic poetry is the most difficult achievement of genius, when wrought up to its highest perfection. To carry on a train of philosophical meditations, or to support a succession of reasonings and inferences, with all the restraints